

I, Jean Koch, being duly sworn, depose and say:

- 1.) I reside at 6334 W. 80th St., Los Angeles, California 90045.
- 2.) I am a housewife. I have had special interest in conservation. I am a former member of the executive committee of the Westchester YMCA Board and I am a Sierra Club member. My hobbies include skiing with my family in the winter and back-packing in the summer.
- 3.) I am very familiar with Mineral King and the surrounding portion of Sequoia National Park. I first went to Mineral King with my parents in 1932, and have spent vacations there regularly since then. I have hiked to all of the surrounding lakes in the Mineral King National Game Refuge, and have gone on horseback to more distant places in Sequoia National Park, such as Cliff Creek. For the past nine years my family has been back-packing, usually using Mineral King as a starting point. We have also back-packed in other parts of the Sierra Nevada to the north, east and south of Mineral King, such as the Little Kern, the Kern Canyon, Kings Canyon National Park, Inyo National Forest, ~~Sierra National Forest~~, Sierra National Park, as well as in Arizona.

For the past 14 years, my husband and I have owned a cabin at Mineral King, which has provided a great deal of pleasure to our immediate family as well as to youth groups (Indian Guides, church groups) and friends. Our cabin is occupied continuously from July through September, providing a pleasant mountain experience for many people



each year, some of whom would be unable to find space in the increasingly limited camp grounds.

- 4.) I have been active with organizations seeking to preserve and protect Mineral King from exploitation and commercialization. I have served on the Mineral King Task Force of the Sierra Club, participating in the planning of two Hike-Ins at Mineral King. I have been a member of the Mineral King Film Fund, which has produced an educational film on Mineral King and the current controversy, and I have been actively involved in the distribution of the film and other educational materials regarding Mineral King. I support completely the efforts of the Sierra Club and other organizations to protect the integrity of this area and prevent the illegal and destructive development of Mineral King by the U.S. Forest Service.
- 5.) I have found the Mineral King area to be of outstanding scenic and natural importance. It is enjoyed by many people each year, and at the same time, it provides a buffer zone for the wilderness of Sequoia National Park, which surrounds it on three sides. I have seen the results of the destructive avalanches at Mineral King, and I feel a highly commercialized ski development there would be inappropriate and illegal, if not dangerous.
- 6.) The conversion of the Sequoia National Game Refuge into an intensely developed recreation complex would destroy the value of the area for the purposes of hiking, back-packing, fishing, camping, wild life observation and quiet, and would certainly diminish the qualities which allow the area to function as a game refuge. My family will suffer great loss if Mineral King is developed according to the Forest Service and Disney plan, in that the Forest Service will cancel the lease for our cabin. We will have to remove the cabin or pay to have it removed. We will receive no recompense from the Forest Service for our loss.



7.) I am firmly of the opinion that the construction of the proposed summer and winter recreation complex would completely alter the qualities which enable Mineral King to qualify both as a game refuge and as a worthy addition to one of America's great national parks.